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***** -IP DEPARTMENT - ***** 952 402 8187- *****



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Fax Transmission | September 3, 2004

TO: Commissioner for Patents
Attn: Examiner George J. Letscher
Patent Examining Corps
Facsimile Center
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FROM: Paul T. Dietz

OUR REF: STL 9029.00.00


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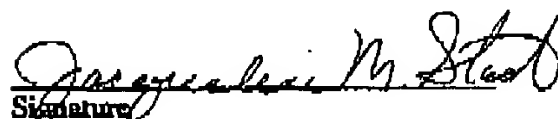
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Applicant: Gregory Paul Myers et al
Serial No.: 09/491,098
Filed: 01/25/2000
Group Art Unit: 2653
Examiner: George J. Letscher
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Jacqueline M. Stadt


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PATENT APPLICATION
RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.142
EXAMINING GROUP 2653

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re App:	Gregory P. Myers et al.	Date:	September 3, 2004
S.N.:	09/491,098	Docket No.:	STL 9029.00
Filed:	01/25/2000	Examiner:	George J. Letscher
For:	SOLDER CONTROL FEATURES FOR A DISC DRIVE HEAD FLEX CIRCUIT INTERCONNECT	Art Unit:	2653

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.142 AND
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed August 10, 2004, Applicant elects Group I (claims 1-10, and 14-15). With this response Applicant cancels claims 11-13, presents new claims 16-18, and reserves the right to file a divisional application or otherwise reintroduce them at a later date.

CLAIMS

1. (Original) A flex on suspension circuit comprising:
a tail with a first and a second end;
a shunt bar located adjacent to the second end of the tail;
a plurality of flying leads projecting substantially perpendicular from a first edge of the second end of the tail wherein the plurality of flying leads are substantially parallel with one another and extend between the second end of the tail and the shunt bar; and
a dam intersecting the flying leads wherein the dam extends from a first flying lead to a last flying lead and is substantially parallel with the first edge of the second end of the tail.
2. (Original) The flex on suspension circuit of Claim 1 further comprising a foot at the second end of the center tail route wherein the foot is located on a second edge of the second end of the tail.
3. (Original) The flex on suspension circuit of Claim 1 further comprising a plurality of head leads wherein a continuous electrical path is formed between the head leads and the flying leads.
4. (Original) The flex on suspension circuit of Claim 1 further comprising a gimbel region.
5. (Original) The flex on suspension circuit of Claim 1 further comprising a load beam area coupled to the first end of the tail.
6. (Original) The flex on suspension circuit of Claim 1 further comprising a loopback.
7. (Original) The flex on suspension circuit of Claim 1 further comprising a flapper on a third edge of the second end of the tail wherein the third edge is located opposite the first edge.
8. (Original) The flex on suspension circuit of Claim 1 further comprising a shark fin wherein the shark fin is located on a third edge of the second end of the tail wherein the third edge is located opposite the first edge.
9. (Original) The flex on suspension circuit of Claim 1 wherein the dam is fabricated from a polyimide material.
10. (Original) The flex on suspension circuit of Claim 1 wherein the dam is fabricated from a covercoat material.

11-13 Cancelled

14. (Original) A flex on suspension circuit comprising:

a tail with a first and a second end;

a shunt bar located adjacent to the second end of the tail;

a plurality of flying leads projecting substantially perpendicular from a first edge of the second end of the tail wherein the plurality of flying leads are substantially parallel with one another and extend between the second end of the tail and the shunt bar; and
a means for intersecting the flying leads from a first flying lead to a last flying lead substantially parallel with the first edge of the second end of the tail.

15. (Original) A flex on suspension circuit comprising:

a plurality of flying leads having a portion for solder connection to a printed circuit board; and

dam means located on either side of said portion for preventing wicking of solder beyond the dam means.

16. (New) A flexible circuit comprising:

a portion of a printed circuit card having a proximal and distal end;

leads electrically interconnected to the printed circuit card at solder pads;

solder connecting lead ends to solder pads; and

dam segments restricting flow of solder beyond a region relative to the solder pads.


17. (New) The flexible circuit of Claim 16 wherein the dam is fabricated from a polyimide material.

18. (New) The flexible circuit of Claim 16 wherein the dam is fabricated from a covercoat material.

REMARKS

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed August 10, 2004, Applicant has elected claims 1-10, and 14-15, and added new claims 16-18. The elected claims and newly added claims are believed to be in a condition of allowance and a notice to that affect is respectfully requested.

Any questions regarding this Response may be directed to the below identified representative of Applicant.

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Date: September 3, 2004

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

Date of Deposit: September 3, 2004

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Jacqueline M. Stadt